

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KIGALI 01506 061630Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 ONY-00 /026 W
-----124034 061632Z /41 R
O 061512Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6625

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STADIS//////////

FOR AF/HARROP FROM CRIGLER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, RW
SUBJECT: FY-79 AND FY-80 BUDGETS

REF STATE 224147

1. FOLLOWING ARE OUR REACTIONS TO BUDGET INFO TRANS-
MITTED REFTEL (WHICH DID NOT REACH US UNTIL SEPT 6):

2. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE:

A. FY-79 LEVELS. WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT RWANDA HAS
BEEN SPARED SURGERY INFLICTED ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA
AND OUR PROGRAM REMAINS AT THE LEVEL WE PROPOSED.

B. FY-80 REQUEST. AID APPARENTLY SUSTAINED
"EXPANSION" LEVEL RECOMMENDED BY KIGALI BUT
REJECTED THE HIGHER OR "PROPOSED" LEVEL. IN DOING
SO, IT AXED A \$4 MILLION RURAL ROAD PROJECT WHICH I
CONSIDER AN ESSENTIAL PART OF AN INTEGRATED RURAL
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT WHICH PRESUMABLY RECEIVED
GREEN LIGHT SEPARATELY. ROAD PROJECT, THOUGH INFRASTRUCTURAL
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PAGE 02 KIGALI 01506 061630Z

IN CHARACTER, ACTUALLY RELATES CLOSELY TO OUR
STRATEGY FOR ADDRESSING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS IN HIGH-
ALTITUDE ZAIRE/NILE CREST REGION OF WESTERN RWANDA.
IN HOPES THAT AID/W WILL EVENTUALLY AGREE, WE PROPOSE
TO GO AHEAD WITH PROJECT DOCUMENTATION AND AIM
FOR FY-80 FALL OUT FUNDS.

C. ONLY OTHER FY-80 PROJECT EXCLUDED BY REFTTEL FIGURES IS \$1.1 MILLION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROPOSAL IN SUPPORT OF CEPGL. WE UNDERSTAND AID/W DELETED THIS PROPOSAL FROM POST'S ABS SUBMISSION AND TRANSFERRED IT TO REGIONAL AFFAIRS PIGEON HOLE. NOT SURE WHERE THIS LEAVES PROJECT, HOWEVER, SINCE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES APPEAR GROUPED UNDER "ENHANCEMENT" CATEGORY AND SEEM HAVE LITTLE CHANCE OF SURVIVING OMB CUTS. AS INDICATED KIGALI 1503, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO DEMONSTRATE ACTIVE AND MATERIAL INTEREST IN THIS "FLEDGLING" ORGANIZATION, AS A MEASURE OF OUR INTEREST IN REGIONAL STABILITY AND AFRICAN PROBLEM-SOLVING. IT WOULD BE A PITY IF THIS INITIATIVE FELL BETWEEN BILATERAL AND REGIONAL STOOLS.

D. TITLE II. AMOUNTS PROGRAMMED FOR RWANDA FOOD FOR PEACE PROPERLY REFLECT GROWING FOOD SHORT FALL AND OUR OFT EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HELP RWANDA COVER THIS SHORT FALL.

3. MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING (IMETP). MOST DISTRESSING NEWS CONTAINED REFTTEL WAS THAT RWANDA AGAIN HAD BEEN ELBOWED AWAY FROM THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TROUGH. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, WE FAILED LAST YEAR TO SELL THE IDEA OF STRENGTHENING RWANDAN ARMY'S DEVELOPMENTAL ROLE BY PROVIDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 01506 061630Z

"NON-LETHAL" EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING. WE DECIDED THIS YEAR TO RETRENCH AND APPEALED ONLY FOR THE TRAINING ELEMENT, REQUESTING A MODEST \$0.1 MILLION IMETP PROGRAM. WE BELIEVED THIS TO BE MINIMUM GESTURE WE COULD MAKE IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CREDIBILITY AND INFLUENCE WITH SECURITY-ANXIOUS RWANDAN ARMY OFFICERS (WHO STILL RUN THIS COUNTRY). GOR, OF COURSE, ASKED US FOR CONSIDERABLY MORE AND WILL BE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED -- PERHAPS THE RIGHT WORD IS DISILLUSINED -- WHEN WE HAVE TO SAY NO AGAIN THIS YEAR. WE HAVE WORKED VERY HARD TO FIND A WAY TO ENHANCE OUR INFLUENCE WITH THIS KEY POLITICAL OROSP, AS A MEANS OF ENABLING PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE HIS ENLIGHTENED DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS POLICIES. BY DENYING OURSELVES THIS INFLUENCE, WE SERIOUSLY UNDERMINE CHANCES FOR ACHIEVING THE REST OF OUR GORM OBJECTIVES. I STRONGLY URGE THAT RWANDAN CASE BE RECONSIDERED AND INCLUDED AMONG THOSE WITH A "REASONABLE PROSPECT OF BEING APPROVED."

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